--- "Series of 1971" - 1½ Ounces - "The Maple Leaf" - *imperforate* - 22 x 42 mm. ---

--- used by Import Licensee # 138 - ("Theodorus Niemeyer", Holland) - 1970-74 ---

The coding used by Import Licensee # **138** follows this combination - the initial number gives the *week of the month*, and the following letter provides the *month,* and the final number gives the *year*.

RN-302 - 1½ ounces, *imperforate*, coded **4L2 / 138** by Import Licensee # **138**, in the second week December 1974

[M-667]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1970	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1971	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4M1
1972	---	---	---	---	---	---	2G6	---	---	---	---	---
1973	---	---	3C4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1974	---	---	---	---	4E2	4F1	---	4H5	4J4	---	4L2	---
1975	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

It is probable that they are omitting the use of the letter **I** in the alphabetic sequence of months (since **I** is a bit ambiguous, and can be misread as the number **1**), and adding the letter **M** to fill in the twelve months. Equally it is possible that they are using *thirteen* four-week periods per year, and using the full alphabetic sequence from **A** to **M**.

As can be seen from the 1½ ounce "1974 Issue" used by **138** - the first letter gives the *week*, and **4L2** comes from the second week of December 1974, which is about five months after the government ceased supplying tax-paid stamps. Being an importer, "Theodorus Niemeyer" had sufficient sheets to run production to this late date - such 'out-of-country' use was permitted by the Department.

The presence of **2G6** presents a difficulty. I would like to think that the final letter represents the *week* of production. Obviously this sixth week does not fit. Perhaps this is an error?

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RN_STAMPS \ POUCH \ 1971 \ Licensee 138 \ 1.5 ounces],
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